

2    WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1.        A method of conducting an instant win game in combination with a  
4    base wagering game, comprising:  
         receiving a base wagering game entry and a base wagering game wager from a  
6    player;  
         receiving an instant win game wager from the player;  
8        storing a game theme indicator;  
         storing a plurality of instant win game outcome display themes;  
10       determining an outcome of the instant win game for the player;  
         displaying the outcome of the instant win game to the player, the outcome  
12    being displayed with one of the plurality of instant win game outcome display themes  
         wherein the one of the plurality of instant win game outcome display themes  
14    corresponds to the stored game theme indicator; and  
         awarding the player an instant win game prize corresponding to the outcome  
16    of the instant win game.

2.        A method of conducting an instant win game in combination with a  
2    base wagering game according to claim 1, wherein the instant win game and base  
         wagering game are implemented in a gaming system having a host computer  
4    communicatively linked to a plurality of terminal units, the method comprising  
         receiving the base wagering game entry, base wagering game wager and instant win  
6    game wager at one of the terminal units.

3.        A method of conducting an instant win game in combination with a  
2    base wagering game according to claim 2, comprising determining the outcome of the  
         instant win game for the player at one of the host computer and the one of the  
4    plurality of terminal units receiving the base wagering game entry, base wagering  
         game wager and instant win game wager.

4.        A method of conducting an instant win game in combination with a  
2    base wagering game according to claim 2, comprising displaying the outcome of the  
         instant win game to the player at the one of the plurality of terminal units receiving

4 the base wagering game entry, base wagering game wager and instant win game  
wager.

5. A method of conducting an instant win game in combination with a  
2 base wagering game according to claim 4, wherein each of the terminal units includes  
a ticket printer, the method comprising printing a ticket at the ticket printer of the one  
4 of the plurality of terminal units, the ticket including first indicia corresponding to the  
base wagering game entry and base wagering game wager, and second indicia  
6 corresponding to the outcome of the instant win game with the one of the instant win  
game outcome display themes corresponding to the stored game theme indicator.

6. A method of conducting an instant win game in combination with a  
2 base wagering game according to claim 4, wherein each of the terminal units includes  
a video display device, the method comprising displaying the outcome of the instant  
4 win game at the video display device of the one of the terminal units, the outcome of  
the instant win game being displayed with the one of the instant win game outcome  
6 display themes corresponding to the stored game theme indicator.

7. A method of conducting an instant win game in combination with a  
2 base wagering game according to claim 1, wherein the instant win game and base  
wagering game are implemented in a gaming system having a host computer  
4 communicatively linked to a plurality of terminal units, the method comprising  
storing the game theme indicator at one of the host computer and the terminal units.

8. A method of conducting an instant win game in combination with a  
2 base wagering game according to claim 1, wherein the instant win game and base  
wagering game are implemented in a gaming system having a host computer  
4 communicatively linked to a plurality of terminal units, the method comprising  
storing the plurality of instant win game outcome display themes at the plurality of  
6 terminal units.

9. A method of conducting an instant win game in combination with a  
2 base wagering game according to claim 1, wherein the instant win game and base  
wagering game are implemented in a gaming system having a host computer

4     communicatively linked to a plurality of terminal units each having a value dispensing  
unit, the method comprising dispensing the instant win game prize to the player via  
6     the value dispensing unit.

10.     A method of conducting an instant win game in combination with a  
2     base wagering game according to claim 1, wherein the instant win game and the base  
wagering game are implemented in a terminal unit having an input device, the method  
4     comprising receiving the base wagering game entry, base wagering game wager and  
instant win game wager at the input device of the terminal units.

11.     A method of conducting an instant win game in combination with a  
2     base wagering game according to claim 10, wherein the terminal unit includes a ticket  
printer, the method comprising printing a ticket at the ticket printer of the terminal  
4     unit, the ticket including first indicia corresponding to the base wagering game entry  
and base wagering game wager, and second indicia corresponding to the outcome of  
6     the instant win game with the one of the instant win game outcome display themes  
corresponding to the stored game theme indicator.

12.     A method of conducting an instant win game in combination with a  
2     base wagering game according to claim 10, wherein the terminal unit includes a video  
display device, the method comprising displaying the outcome of the instant win  
4     game at the video display device of the terminal unit, the outcome of the instant win  
game being displayed with the one of the instant win game outcome display themes  
6     corresponding to the stored game theme indicator.

13.     A method of conducting an instant win game in combination with a  
2     base wagering game according to claim 1, wherein the instant win game and base  
wagering game are implemented in a terminal unit having a value dispensing unit, the  
4     method comprising dispensing the instant win game prize to the player via the value  
dispensing unit.

14.     A gaming system for conducting an instant win game in combination  
2     with a base wagering game, said gaming system comprising:  
a plurality of terminal units, each of the terminal units comprising:

4                   an input device that allows a player to make a plurality of input  
                  selections;

6                   a terminal unit memory device;

                  a currency-accepting mechanism that is capable of allowing the player

8                   to deposit a medium of currency;

                  a value-dispensing mechanism that is capable of dispensing value to

10                  the player;

                  an output device; and

12                  a terminal unit controller operatively coupled to the display unit, the

                  input device, the terminal unit memory device, the currency-accepting

14                  mechanism, the value-dispensing mechanism, and the output device; and

                  a host computer operatively coupled to the plurality of terminal units, the host

16                  computer comprising a host computer memory device and a host computer controller

                  operatively coupled to the host computer memory device,

18                  the terminal unit controller being programmed to allow a player to enter a base

                  wagering game entry at the input device,

20                  the terminal unit controller being programmed to allow a player to make a

                  base wagering game wager and an instant win game wager at the currency-accepting

22                  mechanism,

                  one of the terminal unit controller and the host computer controller being

24                  programmed to store a game theme indicator at the corresponding one of the terminal

                  unit memory device and the host computer memory device,

26                  one of the terminal unit controller and the host computer controller being

                  programmed to store a plurality of instant win game outcome display themes at the

28                  corresponding one of the terminal unit memory device and the host computer memory

                  device,

30                  one of the terminal unit controller and the host computer controller being

                  programmed to determine an outcome of the instant win game,

32                  the terminal unit controller being programmed to display the outcome of the

                  instant win game at the output device with the outcome being displayed with one of

34                  the plurality of instant win game outcome display themes corresponding to the game

                  theme indicator, and

36           the terminal unit controller being programmed to cause the value-dispensing  
mechanism to dispense an instant win game prize corresponding to the outcome of the  
38 instant win game.

15.     A gaming system for conducting an instant win game in combination  
2 with a base wagering game according to claim 14, wherein the output device  
comprises a ticket printer, wherein the terminal unit controller is programmed to print  
4 a ticket including first indicia corresponding to the base wagering game entry and  
base wagering game wager, and second indicia corresponding to the outcome of the  
6 instant win game with the one of the instant win game outcome display themes  
corresponding to the stored game theme indicator.

16.     A gaming system for conducting an instant win game in combination  
2 with a base wagering game according to claim 14, wherein the output device  
comprises a video display device, wherein the terminal unit controller is programmed  
4 to display the outcome of the instant win game at the video display device, the  
outcome being displayed with the one of the instant win game outcome display  
6 themes corresponding to the stored game theme indicator.

17.     A gaming system for conducting an instant win game in combination  
2 with a base wagering game according to claim 14, wherein the host computer  
controller is programmed to determine the outcome of the instant win game, wherein  
4 the host computer controller is programmed to store the game theme indicator at the  
host computer memory device, wherein the terminal unit controller is programmed to  
6 store the plurality of instant win game outcome themes at the terminal unit memory  
device, and wherein the host computer controller is programmed to transmit the  
8 outcome of the instant win game and the game theme indicator to the terminal unit.

18.     A terminal unit for conducting an instant win game in combination  
2 with a base wagering game, said terminal unit comprising:  
          an input device that allows the player to make a plurality of input selections;  
4           a memory device;  
          a currency-accepting mechanism that is capable of allowing the player to  
6 deposit a medium of currency;

8       a value-dispensing mechanism that is capable of dispensing value to the  
player;  
an output device; and  
10       a controller operatively coupled to the display unit, the input device, the  
memory device, the currency-accepting mechanism, the value-dispensing mechanism,  
12       and the output device,  
the controller being programmed to allow a player to enter a base wagering  
14       game entry at the input device,  
the controller being programmed to allow a player to make a base wagering  
16       game wager and an instant win game wager at the currency-accepting mechanism,  
the controller being programmed to store a game theme indicator at the  
18       memory device and,  
the controller being programmed to store a plurality of instant win game  
20       outcome display themes at the memory device,  
the controller being programmed to determine an outcome of the instant win  
22       game,  
the controller being programmed to display the outcome of the instant win  
24       game at the output device with the outcome being displayed with one of the plurality  
of instant win game outcome display themes corresponding to the game theme  
26       indicator, and  
the controller being programmed to cause the value-dispensing mechanism to  
28       dispense an instant win game prize corresponding to the outcome of the instant win  
game.

19.     A terminal unit for conducting an instant win game in combination  
2       with a base wagering game according to claim 18, wherein the output device  
comprises a ticket printer, wherein the controller is programmed to print a ticket  
4       including first indicia corresponding to the base wagering game entry and base  
wagering game wager, and second indicia corresponding to the outcome of the instant  
6       win game with the one of the instant win game outcome display themes  
corresponding to the stored game theme indicator.

20.     A terminal unit for conducting an instant win game in combination  
2       with a base wagering game according to claim 18, wherein the output device

comprises a video display device, wherein the controller is programmed to display the  
4 outcome of the instant win game at the video display device, the outcome being  
displayed with the one of the instant win game outcome display themes corresponding  
6 to the stored game theme indicator.